

## Development of a Year 6 Science Assessment (Phase 2)

### INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

#### What is the Development of a Year 6 Science Assessment Project?

Your child's school is taking part in the Development of a Year 6 Science Assessment project. This information sheet provides you with details about what the project will involve for you and your child.

The project is being jointly funded by the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) and is being carried out by York Trials Unit (YTU) at the University of York. The aim of the project is to develop an accurate, independent science assessment that is suitable for Year 6 pupils. The assessment can then be used in the future to measure children's attainment in science. The project is fully supported by your child's school and will be carried out under strict ethical and data protection guidelines.

#### What does the research involve for my child?

In June 2022 your child will be asked to complete an assessment that takes about one hour. Either a trained Assessment Invigilator from the University of York will visit your child's school or one of the school's teachers will administer the assessment in class.

#### What other information will be collected?

In order to carry out this project we need to collect information about your child from their school (including your child's full name, gender, date of birth, free school meal eligibility, EAL status and KS1 and KS2 SATs results).

For the purpose of project, the information provided by your child's school and your child's scores on the science assessment will be linked together to make sure the science questions provide a suitable assessment for children of this age group.

Your child's data will be treated with the strictest confidence and safeguards are in place to protect their data, in line with the General Data Protection Regulation. We will not use your child's name or the name of their school in any report arising from the project. The *Frequently Asked Questions* section below will tell you more about how we will use and store the information collected in the project.

We expect that your child will enjoy completing the assessment and being part of the project. Your child may withdraw from the project at any time (see the section below for how to notify any withdrawal).

## What do I need to do now?

Your child will be asked to complete a science assessment and to share their data with the research team. **Your child does not have to take part in the project – you and your child can decide.**

### **If you are happy for your child to take part:**

You do not need to do anything – your child will be included in the project. Please keep this information for future reference. You are free to change your mind about your child's participation later – please see the Frequently Asked Questions below for how to do this.

### **If you do NOT want your child to take part** in the assessment or to share their data with the research team:

Please return the attached withdrawal form to your child's school or communicate your wishes to the school via email, telephone, or in person by the date specified by your child's school. The school will make a note of your child's withdrawal and will make sure their data is **not** passed to the University of York team and they are not assessed as part of this project.

**THANK YOU FOR READING THIS INFORMATION**

## Frequently Asked Questions

**What is the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF)?** The EEF is an independent charity founded in 2011 with funding from the Department of Education. Its aim is to build the evidence for what works in raising attainment. Ultimately, this means demonstrating the impact of its projects on children's attainment from Early Years through to post-16. For more information visit: [educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/).

**Is my child's participation in the project confidential?** All participant data will be treated in the strictest confidence and will be stored in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018. We will not use your child's name or the name of participating schools in any report arising from the project.

**I've agreed for my child to take part can I withdraw my child from the project later?** You are free to withdraw your child from the project at any time during the course of the project (information already collected about your child will be retained). In this event, please tell your child's school who will communicate this to the University of York Team, or you can contact us directly using the contact details provided.

**Who will your child's data be shared with and why?** For the purposes of this study, your child's school will share information about your child with the University of York Team.

At the end of the study, pupil data, individually identifiable solely by the Department for Education, will be submitted to the EEF data archive. Please see the [Privacy Notice](https://tinyurl.com/yr6privacy) for full details (<https://tinyurl.com/yr6privacy>).

**Questions or concerns:** If you have any questions about this information sheet or concerns about your child taking part in the project, please contact the project team at [ytu-eefscitest6@york.ac.uk](mailto:ytu-eefscitest6@york.ac.uk). If you have any complaints about the project, please contact the Chair of the Research Governance Committee ([stephen.holland@york.ac.uk](mailto:stephen.holland@york.ac.uk)). If you are unhappy with the way the University has handled your data or your child's personal data, you have a right to complain to the Information Commissioner's Office. For information on reporting a concern to the Information Commissioner's Office, see [ico.org.uk/concerns](https://ico.org.uk/concerns).

**Where can I find out the results of the project?** The University of York team have to produce a final report. This is due in mid-2024 and will be published by the EEF on their website (<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk>); this final report will not name any schools or individual children.

**Questions about the study?** Please contact the University of York team:

Year 6 Science Assessment - University of York

York Trials Unit

ARRC Building

University of York

York

YO10 5DD

Email: [ytu-eefscitest6@york.ac.uk](mailto:ytu-eefscitest6@york.ac.uk)

Tel: 01904 326841

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## PARENT/CARER CHILD WITHDRAWAL FORM

Your child's school is taking part in the Development of a Year 6 Science Assessment research project.

If you **DO NOT** want your child to take part in the assessment as part of the project, and you **DO NOT** want their data to be processed as outlined in the Information for Parents/Carers, please complete, sign and return this form to your child's school OR contact your school in person, or via email or telephone. Please respond by [DATE].

If you are happy for your child to complete the assessment and their data to be processed as outlined, you don't need to do anything.

I **DO NOT** want my child to take part in the Development of a Year 6 Science Assessment Project.

Your child's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your child's date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent/carer: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent/carer: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_